


# Planning and Development Department Update

**DATE:** May 20, 2011  
**TO:** Mayor Setti D. Warren  
**FROM:** Candace Havens, Director of Planning and Development  
**RE:** Friday Report   
**CC:** Board of Aldermen  
Robert Rooney, Chief Operating Officer

This weekly report is intended to keep you informed of current development proposals and other noteworthy planning and development activities as follows:

<b>Monday</b> <b>5/23/11</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>5/24/11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zoning Reform Scoping Group, 5:30 p.m., Room 202</li><li>• Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing, 7:00 p.m., Aldermanic Chamber</li><li>• Real Property Reuse Committee, 7:45 p.m., Room 209</li><li>• Newton Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force, 7:45 p.m., Cafeteria – Basement Level</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>5/25/11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Relationship Violence Action Committee, 3:00 p.m., Room 222</li><li>• Transportation Advisory Committee, 7:00 p.m., Room 209</li><li>• Zoning &amp; Planning Committee, 8:00 p.m., Room 202</li></ul>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>5/26/11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Newton Historical Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 202</li><li>• Traffic Council, 7:00 p.m., Room 222</li><li>• Conservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 209</li></ul>

- **Zoning Reform Scoping Group:** The Zoning Reform Scoping Group will meet **Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>** at 5:30 p.m., Room 202. **For more information, contact: Seth Zeren at 617-796-1145 or [szeren@newtonma.gov](mailto:szeren@newtonma.gov).**
- **Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing:** The Board will meet on **Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers on the following petitions: **#2-11** from Arkady Degtiarov and Irina L. Deresh, **20 Shute Path**, appealing the Commissioner of Inspectional Services' Notice of Zoning Violation that a dog run was constructed without a building permit and that the dog run and shed are located in the front and side yard setbacks; **#10-11** from A. Marc O'Brien and Sally C. O'Brien, **45 Westbourne Road**, requesting a variance of 19.90 feet from the front yard setback requirements in order to construct a detached two-car garage. **Contact Sherri Lougee at 617.796.1061 or [slougee@newtonma.gov](mailto:slougee@newtonma.gov).**
- **Real Property Reuse Committee:** The Committee will meet on **Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>** at 7:45 p.m. in Room 209 to consider a request for reuse of right-of-way over privately-owned property at **145-7 Chapel Street**; and transfer of use of Newton Corner Library to Department of Parks and Recreation. **Contact Candace Havens at 61.7.796.1137 or [chavens@newtonma.gov](mailto:chavens@newtonma.gov).**
- **Transportation Advisory Committee:** The next Transportation Advisory Committee will be held on **Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 209. The agenda includes reports from the Parking and Governance Subcommittees, transit recommendations, a discussion of the Development Review process, and additional topics including car sharing, transportation goals, quality control and repairs, and wayfinding. **Contact David Koses at 617.796.1133 or [dkoses@newtonma.gov](mailto:dkoses@newtonma.gov).**
- **Zoning & Planning Committee:** The Committee will hold a **Working Session** on **Wednesday, May 25th, 2011** at 8:00 p.m. in Room 202. The following items will be discussed: **#17-11** Terrence P. Morris, Joseph Porter, Bruce Bradford, George Collins, Verne T. Porter, Jr., Michael Peirce proposing an amendment revising the definition of "Grade Plane" and adding a new definition for "Average Grade"; and item **#65-11** Terrence P. Morris & Joseph Porter proposing an amendment to the zoning ordinance to change the definition and regulation of "height" and to make height exceptions in accessory buildings subject to special permit rather than a variance; **#49-11** Alderman. Johnson, requesting updates on the review of the data collected on the impact of new FAR regulations; **#81-11** Aldermen Johnson, Crossley, Hess-Mahan, Lappin, and Danberg on the progress of the Zoning Reform Scoping Group; **#26-11** His Honor the Mayor, submitting an amendment to the 2007 Newton *Comprehensive Plan* to include a Mixed-Use Centers Element; **#133-11 & #134-11** His Honor the Mayor requesting the appointment of Stuart Snyder and Eunice Kim as alternates to the Planning and

Development Board; and **#112-11 & #113-11** His Honor the Mayor requesting the appointment of David Abramowitz and Barry Abramson to the Economic Development Commission. **For more information, contact: Jen Molinsky at 617.796.1130 or [jmolinsky@newtonma.gov](mailto:jmolinsky@newtonma.gov) or Seth Zeren at 617.796.1145 or [szeren@newtonma.gov](mailto:szeren@newtonma.gov).**

- **Newton Historical Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 202. Items on the agenda include: **258 Cherry Street**, request to demolish house; **82 Miller Road**, request to demolish house; **15 Laurel Street**, request to demolish house and carriage house; **87-89 Waban Street**, request to demolish house; **9 Ripley Street**, request to add addition; **Administrative Discussion:** Minutes and Letters of Appreciation. **Contact Brian Lever at 617.796.1129, [blever@newtonma.gov](mailto:blever@newtonma.gov).**
- **Traffic Council:** Traffic Council will meet on **Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 222. The following items are on the agenda: Planning Department on behalf of the Newton Safe Routes to School Task Force, requesting establishment of a Blue Zone on **Cypress Street** adjacent to the Bowen School; Planning Department on behalf of the Newton Safe Routes to School Task Force request for a raised crosswalk on **Cypress Street** in the vicinity of 280 Cypress Street in association with modification to the school entrance; Planning Department request for a raised device on **Cypress Street near Bow Road**; Chief Matthew Cummings, requesting the installation of a pedestrian traffic signal to replace the existing flashing yellow pedestrian light at the intersection of **Crafts Street at Linwood Avenue** (*held on 4/28/11*); Planning Department requesting traffic and pedestrian improvements to **Crafts Street between Linwood Avenue and Walnut Street**, which may include a traffic signal at the intersection of Crafts and Walnut Streets (*also held on 4/28/11*); Planning Department request for a discussion related to changes to the TIGER Permit Parking Program and the private way section of **Elm Road**; Ald. Danberg and Fuller, requesting a discussion on re-striping auto and bicycle lanes at the intersection of **Beacon Street and Hammond Pond Parkway** to improve traffic flow and bike safety; Ald. Danberg, Blazar and Shapiro on behalf of Kay Alexander and Steve Hamilton requesting a discussion on traffic mitigation possibilities on **Sumner, Marshall, Everett and Gibbs Streets** in Newton Centre to address speeding and cut-through traffic. **Contact David Koses at 617.796.1133, [dkoses@newtonma.gov](mailto:dkoses@newtonma.gov).**
- **Conservation Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30 p.m. in Room 209. The following items will be heard: **Newton Commonwealth Golf**, report on on-going maintenance; **483 Dedham Street -Charles River Country Club**, (*continued from 4-28-11*); **MBTA Right of Way (through Webster conservation area)**, Vegetation Management Plan (*continued from April*); **Nahanton Woods**, applicant requests continuance to June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting; **33 Theodore Road** work in flood zone and riverfront with compensatory flood storage; **56 Broken Tree Road**, demo and rebuild in the 100 ft. buffer zone. **Violations (new and updates): 320-322 Needham Street**, correspondence from representative regarding restoration plan; **75-85-95 Wells Avenue**, improper snow disposal; **193 Oak Street Village Condos**, O & M plan to be approved; **25-27 Christina Street**, O&M plan to be approved; **Certificates of Compliance: 77 Florence Street**, as-built plan and letter received; **77 Florence Street**, as-built plan & letter received from engineer; **46 Heatherland Road**, a-built and letter received; **100 Boulder Road**, hay bales not removed from flood zone-not ready; **36 Hyde Avenue**, continued to future meeting T.B.D.; **76 Hyde Avenue**, , continued to future meeting T.B.D. **Discussion/Reports: 36 Hyde Avenue** seeking sign-off for Certificate of Occupancy; **Off-leash Dog Park at Norumbega Park**, Bob DeRubeis will advise when ready to meet with Commission to present new proposal; **Announcement/Reminder of Celebration at Norumbega on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.**; **Plaque for Helen in Riverway, CA**, report on telephone conversation with Janice Heyn Meisenhelder. **Contact Anne Phelps at 617.796.1134 or [aphelps@newtonma.gov](mailto:aphelps@newtonma.gov).**
- **Save the Date! Needham Street Public Presentation Night:** The public is invited to offer their “big ideas” about what might happen on Needham Street on Public Presentation Night on **Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>** from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Newton Senior Center, 345 Walnut Street, Newtonville. This community meeting will build off of the common themes that were developed at the Community Visioning Session on April 14<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend, listen, and ask questions! Are you interested in presenting? If so, check the website for more information and call Amanda Stout at 617-796-1127 to sign up for a time slot. For all information on previous and upcoming meetings, please visit: [www.newtonma.gov/needhamstreet](http://www.newtonma.gov/needhamstreet) or email [NeedhamStreet@newtonma.gov](mailto:NeedhamStreet@newtonma.gov).